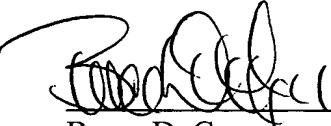


REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Please enter this preliminary amendment prior to examination of the application. In this amendment, applicant requests addition of a paragraph beginning on page 1, immediately after the Title, to reflect a claim of benefit priority to the parent application. Accordingly, no new matter has been added. Applicant also cancels claims 1-17, and amends claims 18, 21, 23, 26, 30 and 38.

In light of the foregoing, applicant respectfully submits that pending claims 18-38 are in condition for allowance, and requests prompt consideration and early notice of allowance.

Date: *Feb 24, 2004*


Bruce D. George
Registration No. 43,631

Woodcock Washburn LLP
One Liberty Place - 46th Floor
Philadelphia PA 19103
Telephone: (215) 568-3100
Facsimile: (215) 568-3439